Echoes of the Overthinker

Unfiltered Essays from the Boy Who Watched Everything but Spoke Nothing

VIBHU DHUNNA

Chapter -3

Are You Ready to Get Listened?

One of my friend, most often too radical for everything. Unfortunately, he was my bench mate as well, and the confidence in his voice when he whispers something in my ear while teacher is teaching something, and accidently writes something wrong on board, was out of this world. Once, for the first time in his life, he was given an opportunity to speak in morning assembly on a topic, which was obviously pre-scripted. I personally thought, he has a great point of view on a lot of topics, but for the first time he was given a chance to through his thoughts out of his mind in front of audience.

The biggest heartbreak of mine happened at that time, I was expecting that he will nail the speech but…. when he started, I saw failure of his confidence rocket which freely falling with no point on ground to touch. His ultra legendry expectations carrying speech started with stammering, having dozens of inaudible in single sentence. The speech was like " Go..go..good morning everyone, I XYZ(not willing to tell you all his name) fro..from grade 11. To..today I am in.. front of.. you ….and blah! blah! blah!" not willing to waste your precious time in that half-heard speech moreover it is too tough to write it, so you can imagine what exactly I wanna tell you all.

On that morning, this incident changed the whole prospective of mine on conversion of thoughts to words. I had seen the confidence visible in private to crash when in front of public. This incident greatly effected my thinking over it. On that day, I decided something, I thought no matters how I stuck in English language, no matters how I process my thought, I should never ever stammer while speaking in front of crowd, and you won't believe me that this one thought helped me a lot.

I was like a guy whose legs will start shaking if given mic in hand, and now I was recently offered hosting from teachers on the basis of my hosting which I did in farewell a few months before freshers. I did the two hosting without any script in front of me nor I memorized any. And it actually went too well, far from my expectations, teachers gave me compliments, the audience also gave me compliments. I was too happy. I was on stage like I owned it.

Coming to the topic, for being ready to be listened, you need to make the audience to listen to you anyhow, no matters what you uses, it can be interacting, using captivating words, it's all up to you, choice is yours. All this time, I realized one thing, for being heard, your voice need not to have a great volume or you need not to have spot light. All you need is something that seems too small, but most of the freshers in speaking leave it, it is nothing other than connection with the audience.

This is the one thing that I accidently made by god's grace on my first speaking and you know what, I somehow figured it out.

Still now, I sometimes don't find a good pace in speaking only English on stage, but if I am given rights to speak in conversational language that is English+Hindi, I could add a good amount of humour along with the seriousness.

I don't know why, I get off track the topic we were discussing, so it was connection. So, for this connection, most of the Gen-Z's will think, "I guess I need to connect my brain to their brain through either Wi-Fi or Bluetooth", apply brakes to your imagination of non-sense my friend, the thing you are currently thinking is not what you supposed to think.

The connection is like the one you feels when she says 'hi' to you while passing you, and you starts feeling like "maybe we both are made for each other, maybe we are soulmates and are supposed to be together or maybe destiny wants both us to live with each other for the welfare of this human world, maybe this, maybe that…" got

the feeling? That's it! The connection you feel between you two, no doubt it was just for a while, you have to built it between you and your listener in the whole speech.

For those who are always listeners, and think that the what is so difficult in speaking in front of public. I would recommend, just for a moment, you should go on stage and keep mic in your hand for a while, your mind will subconsciously starts getting tensed, you will feel pressurized, no matters is there anyone to spectate you, to listen to you or not. And just imagine after this activity, how tough it could be for a speaker to speak, and after that maybe you could try your best to become best audience.

Felt that? Huh! From now at least, you should know how to respect that speaker who is in front of you speaking by collecting all of his confidence.